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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 6, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BENNIE G. THOMPSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

### RESPONSE TO THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to yesterday's address by the President to this body.

The guests the President invited represented America's finest hours and most compelling stories. They serve as a reminder of a history much larger than any individual among us and as an invitation to recommit to our values and promises to our people.

But last night, the President chose to invoke a national unity that he has made every effort to fray. It has been his cynical and sinister political strategy to divide our country and burn bridges among us.

The State of the Union is a platform for the President to inject urgency into the problems the country faces. As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I am encouraged that he has indicated he will sign bipartisan infrastructure legislation, and I am prepared to work with all Members to do so serving our country and communities.

The President also raised the specter of declaring a national emergency to build a monument to his ego, but the real national emergency is the looming climate crisis. As seas rise, fires burn, and the weather becomes more extreme, the people of Orange County and across our country are already suffering its effects, and action from the executive branch can no longer wait—let alone denial of climate change altogether.

He warned us not to cross him, to abandon our constitutional duty to exercise oversight and shine a light on the practices of the executive branch. Congress will not be intimidated.

We should not wait for nor should we expect the President to lead an agenda for the people, but this Congress can move forward with a seriousness befitting the problems of our time and work with one another regardless of party to improve the lives of the people who trusted us to represent them.

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRESIDENT TRUMP'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last night we heard a tremendous State of the Union Address from President Trump that expressed confidence and hope for the future of this great Nation.

Our economy is growing. Thanks in part to historic tax reform, there are currently more than 7 million job openings. This truly is the land of opportunity. We must continue to support smart policies that will expand opportunities for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with President Trump: Together, we can break decades of political stalemate and choose greatness over gridlock. We can work together for the common good to improve our outdated infrastructure; to protect American workers; to provide a check against the high cost of healthcare, prescription drugs; to secure our borders; and, yes, to fix our broken immigration system.

As a nation, we have a right to secure our borders. As President Trump stated, tolerance for illegal immigration is not compassionate; it is cruel. Smugglers use migrant women and children to exploit our laws and to gain access to our country.

Congress must act to address these issues that have plagued our country for far too long because it is clear that America is stronger when we work together.

We saw incredible moments of unity last night. One that stands out for me is when Republicans and Democrats in this Chamber sang "Happy Birthday" to Holocaust survivor, Judah Samet. Mr. Samet narrowly avoided the mass killing at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. Last night, he turned 81 years old. Mr. Speaker, I have witnessed many State of the Union Addresses, but that is a moment I will truly never forget.

The President and First Lady had many distinguished guests in addition to Mr. Samet, including another Pennsylvania resident, Pittsburgh Police Officer Timothy Matson.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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